

Message Text

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51

ACTION CU-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 SSO-00 VO-03 SS-15 /034 W

----- 094437

O R 031509Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8876

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 4564

STATE FOR EUR/SOV, CU/ARTS

USIA FOR IEE

LENINGRAD FOR P&C

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SCUL, UR

SUBJ: METROPOLITAN/HERMITAGE EXCHANGE

REF: A. STATE 074976

B. MOSCOW 4141

1. AT INVITATION OF MINISTRY OF CULTURE AMBASSADOR WAS PRESENT AT EARLY MORNING SIGNING APRIL 3 OF NEW ARMAD HAMMER ART EXCHANGE. IN COURSE OF CEREMONIES DEPUTY MINISTER CULTURE POPOV REMARKED TO AMBASSADOR THAT HE WOULD BE TRAVELING APRIL 15 TO NEW YORK FOR OPENING OF SCYTHIAN GOLD EXHIBIT AND STAYING ON FOR OPENING OF BOLSHOI BALLET. HE SAID HE WOULD BE ACCOMPANIED BY VIKTOR GERASIMOVICH SMAGIN, WHO HAS RECENTLY ASSUMED AMERICAN DESK AT MINCULT (APPARENTLY REPLACING SHERSHUKOV). IT SEEMS THAT PLAN FOR BUTROVA AND FINE ARTS CHIEF KHALTURIN TO GO HAS BEEN DROPPED.

2. REFTTEL A AUTHORIZING EMBASSY EXTEND INVITATION TO POPOV AND TWO OTHERS RECEIVED LATER IN DAY. SMAGIN IS LISTED VLOB BPT-1 AND HIS APPLICATION FOR VISA MAY PRESENT US WITH AN AWKWARD PROBLEM.

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3. EMBASSY PLANS EXTEND INVITATION BY LETTER TO POPOV APRIL

4 AND WOULD APPRECIATE ANY GUIDANCE DEPARTMENT MAY HAVE BEFORE
THAT TIME. WE COULD FOR EXAMPLE TRY TO FORESTALL PROBLEM
BY SPECIFYING INVITATION IS FOR POPOV, KHALTURIN AND BUTROVA
AS ORIGINALLY PROPOSED AND REPORTED REFTEL B.
STOESSEL

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: EDUCATIONAL & CULTURAL EXCHANGE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: greeneet
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975MOSCOW04564
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750115-0648
From: MOSCOW
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750485/aaaaczqyq.tel
Line Count: 66
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION CU
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 75 STATE 074976
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 12 JUN 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <12 JUN 2003 by izenbei0>; APPROVED <24 OCT 2003 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: METROPOLITAN/HERMITAGE EXCHANGE
TAGS: SCUL, UR
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006